

AIRPORT EXIT

Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER)

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THE ANSWER

Take the FEX from the station directly under Terminal 1 - EUR 5.00 for the ABC single, 23 minutes to Hauptbahnhof, 19 to Potsdamer Platz and 14 to Sdkreuz, four times an hour. Buy the ABC ticket, never an AB one.

Every train from BER costs the same EUR 5.00 ABC fare, so the only question is which one - and since the Dresdner Bahn opened on 14 December 2025 the FEX no longer loops around the city, making it the fastest option as well as the simplest.

Moving around Berlin today? The 24-hour ABC ticket is EUR 12.90 and covers the airport run plus the whole city until the same time tomorrow. Four of you with luggage? A taxi meters at about EUR 58-65 plus a EUR 1.50 airport surcharge - roughly what four singles cost, and far less hassle at 1am.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

FEX (Airport Express) *BEST FOR MOST* EUR 5.00

23 min to Berlin Hauptbahnhof, 19 to Potsdamer Platz, 14 to Sdkreuz. Every 15 min from about 04:30 to 00:30, then roughly hourly through the night. Station is directly beneath Terminal 1. Same ABC fare as everything else, so there is no price to compare - only time.

S-Bahn S9 / S45 EUR 5.00

About 45-50 min into town with far more stops: S9 towards Ostbahnhof and Alexanderplatz, S45 towards Sdkreuz and the Ringbahn. Roughly every 20 min. Useful if your hotel is on the eastern side or you want a station the FEX skips.

Regional trains RB24 / RB32 EUR 5.00

New since December 2025: a direct twice-hourly link from Hohenschönhausen, Lichtenberg, Ostkreuz and Schneweide to BER, replacing the old loop through the city. The best option if you are staying in the eastern districts. Same EUR 5.00 ABC ticket.

Taxi (official rank) EUR 58-65 + EUR 1.50

35-50 min for the 26 km. Metered on the Berlin Senate tariff: EUR 4.30 base, EUR 2.80/km to 3 km, EUR 2.60 to 7 km, EUR 2.10 after that, waiting EUR 39/hour. Rides starting at BER add a EUR 1.50 surcharge for the barrier-controlled rank. Berlin taxis are metered 24/7 with no night or weekend rate.

Uber / Bolt EUR 50-70

35-50 min. Both operate in Berlin and price against the metered taxi plus demand, so they beat the meter off-peak and lose to it at rush hour. Ordered in the app; the pick-up point is not the taxi rank.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

The EUR 4.00 AB ticket that stops at the city line

Berlin is split into fare zones A, B and C, and BER sits out in zone C. The EUR 4.00 AB single that covers the whole city does not reach the airport, and the EUR 2.80 Kurzstrecke certainly does not. You need the ABC single at EUR 5.00. There are no ticket barriers, but inspectors work the FEX and the S9 and the penalty fare is EUR 60. **Do this:** buy the EUR 5.00 ABC single or the EUR 12.90 ABC 24-hour ticket, and ignore anything sold as an AB ticket

The machine that sells you a ticket you must stamp

Berlin has no gates and no turnstiles, so nothing forces you to validate a paper ticket - but an unstamped ticket is not a valid ticket. Tickets from machines must be stamped in the red or blue boxes on the platform before you board. Inspectors on the airport line are frequent and the penalty fare is EUR 60, charged per person. **Do this:** stamp your paper ticket in the box on the platform before boarding, or buy in the BVG app instead

Your booking still says Terminal 5 - it closed

Terminal 5, the old Schenefeld terminal, was closed permanently in November 2022 and will not reopen. Every flight now uses Terminal 1 or Terminal 2, which stand next to each other and share one station. If your itinerary, a transfer company or an old guide points you at T5 or at the code SXF, it is wrong - and "S Schenefeld" station is a place, not an airport stop. Walking from it to T1 is not an option. **Do this:** check your airline's real terminal and treat any mention of T5 or SXF as an error

Every guide still says the FEX takes 39 minutes

Until December 2025 the Airport Express looped the long way round via Ostkreuz and Gesundbrunnen, took about 39 minutes and ran only every 30. Since the Dresdner Bahn opened on 14 December 2025 it runs straight in: 23 minutes to Hauptbahnhof, every 15 minutes. Guides and blogs written before that date still tell you to take the S9 because it is "just as fast". **Do this:** take the FEX - it is now both the fastest and the most frequent option, at the same EUR 5.00 fare

Drivers who meet you inside the arrivals hall

BER's own airport company warns that the only lawful pick-up points are the marked north and south taxi ranks in front of Terminal 1, and that anyone touting outside them risks being a fraudulent operator. Rides that start at BER run on their own tariff (EUR 4.30 base, EUR 2.60/km to 5 km, EUR 2.00 after) plus the EUR 1.50 rank surcharge - the meter, not a quoted price, is the fare. **Do this:** walk to the marked rank in front of Terminal 1 or order in an app, and never follow a driver who approaches you

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- The EUR 5.00 ABC single is valid for 120 minutes in one direction with transfers, and covers the FEX, S-Bahn, regional trains, U-Bahn, tram and bus - one ticket does the whole journey.
- The 24-hour ABC ticket is EUR 12.90 (AB EUR 11.20). Buy it at the machine or in the BVG app if you will move around Berlin the same day - two singles already cost EUR 10.00.
- Berlin scrapped its BC zone and its 7-day ticket on 1 January 2026. Only AB and ABC remain, so the airport decision is simply whether you are leaving the city or not.
- The station is directly beneath Terminal 1; Terminal 2 is a short walk away and uses the same station. Trains run from about 04:30 to 00:30 every 15 minutes, then roughly hourly overnight.
- A Deutschlandticket (EUR 63/month) covers the whole trip, FEX included. Do not buy an ABC single on top of it.
- Berlin has no night or weekend taxi surcharge and card payment cannot be refused - the only extra is the EUR 1.50 charge for boarding at BER's barrier-controlled rank.

Prices verified October 2026 against VBB/BVG published fares valid 1 January 2026, the Berlin Senate taxi tariff and DB / Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg GmbH. Single AB EUR 4.00 (reduced EUR 2.50), ABC EUR 5.00 (reduced EUR 3.50) - 24-hour AB EUR 11.20, ABC EUR 12.90 - 4-trip ABC EUR 16.80 - taxi EUR 4.30 base + EUR 2.80/EUR 2.60/EUR 2.10 per km, EUR 39/hour waiting, +EUR 1.50 airport rank surcharge, +EUR 6.00 large vehicle, city-centre fare about EUR 58-65 - FEX 23 min to Hauptbahnhof since the Dresdner Bahn opened 14 December 2025.

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